

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 00111 162103Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02

OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 PC-01 AID-05 SCS-03 IO-13 SCA-01

FBO-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /087 W

-----162109Z 060777 /63

O 162032Z JAN 77 ZFF RUEHC

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9244

AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LOME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 111

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, CASC, AEMR, DM

SUBJECT: BENIN COUP ATTEMPT

REF: STATE 010161

1. AMCITS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT RPT NOT RESIST SEARCHES OF HOUSES AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. ONLY SEARCHES REPORTED THUS FAR ARE TWO POLITE VISITS TO AIDOFF'S HOUSE.
2. AS OF THIS TIME CHARGE HAS NOT REQUESTED GPRB ASSURANCES OF SECURITY U.S. CITIZENS AND PROPERTY. WILL DO SO AT FIRST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY.
3. DO NOT ANTICIPATE GPRB REQUEST TO SEARCH CHANCERY, BUT WILL FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL SHOULD SUCH REQUEST BE FORTHCOMING.
4. BORDERS CLOSED AND TDY PERSONNEL WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT BE ABLE ENTER IF THEY ASSIGNED HERE. AT THIS TIME WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE NEED FOR ASSISTANCE.

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FOLLOWING IS SITREP UP-DATE AS OF 2030 GMT.

5. RE DAMAGE TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, WATCHMAN WAS HIDING INSIDE AT TIME OF SHOOTING, BUT WAS NO INJURED. OTHERWISE RESIDENCE EMPTY, THUS NO CASUALTIES.

6. CURFEW OF ALL EXCEPT MILITARY PERSONNEL HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED AS OF 1930 LOCAL, WITH COMMUNIQUE CALLING FOR SEARCH OF ALL VEHICLES MOVING AND REPEATING CALL FOR HOUSEHOLD SEARCHES IN AREA OF AIRPORT, BUT OTHERWISE NO NEW RESTRICTIONS ANNOUNCED. IT MAY BE SIGNIFICANT THAT SINCE PRESIDENT KEREKOU'S BRIEF CALL FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE THIS MORNING, WHICH HAS BEEN REBROADCAST NUMEROUS TIMES ALL DAY, COMMUNIQUE ARE NOW BEING ATTRIBUTED TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY OF BENIN, AND NO MENTION HAS BEEN MADE OF WHEREABOUTS OF PRESIDENT OR OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. SPORTS PALACE IS NOW BEING USED AS RENDEZVOUS POINT FOR PEOPLE CALLED IN.

7. FOUR-ENGINED PROPELLER-DRIVEN AIRCRAFT CIRCLED COTONOU AIRPORT ABOUT FIVE MINUTES 2100 HRS LOCA (2000 GMT), BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT LAND. AMERICAN SOURCES INDICATE THIS MORNING'S VISITORS ARRIVED IN THIS TYPE CRAFT WITHOUT MARKINGS, BUT WE COULD NOT, OF COURSE, SEE DETAILS OF PLANE WHICH FLEW OVER THIS EVENING.  
LASOR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CITIZEN PROTECTION, INVASIONS, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, TRAVEL CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977COTONO00111  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 10161  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3586232  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BENIN COUP ATTEMPT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, PINS, CASC, AEMR, DM  
**To:** STATE ACCRA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/67dff2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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